

Region 2 Headquarters 3201 Spurgin Road Missoula, MT 59804 Phone 406-542-5500

October 5, 2012

Dear Interested Party:

Enclosed you will find for your review the Draft Environmental Assessment (EA) for a Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks (FWP) proposal to conduct a forest salvage operation (harvest of dead or dying lodgepole pine timber) on approximately 80 acres within FWP's 362-acre Stuart Mill Bay Fishing Access Site (FAS) in Deer Lodge County. The purpose is to maintain the property over time for wildlife, with a forest cover that is healthy and is insect, disease, and fire resistant while giving consideration to safe public use and aesthetic values.

The EA may also be obtained by mail from Region 2 FWP at the address above; by phoning 406-542-5540; by emailing Sharon Rose at shrose@mt.gov; or by viewing FWP's Internet website http://fwp.mt.gov ("Public Notices," beginning October 5th).

Comments may be made on FWP's website or may be directed to Sharon Rose at the mail, phone or email addresses above. Comments must be received by FWP no later than 5:00 p.m. on November 5, 2012.

As part of the decision making process under MEPA, I expect to issue the Decision Notice for this EA soon after the end of the comment period.

Sincerely,

Mack Long
Regional Supervisor

ML/sr